

Methodist
Church

Partnership News

5 June 2011, 7th Sunday of Easter



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday
1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights
2nd and 4th Sunday at St. Mark's Church

5th June - 7th Sunday of Easter

9.30 am Family Worship

Preacher – Deacon Jane Mason
Leadership – Mrs Elizabeth Bean
Intercessions – Mrs Alison Holden

11.00 am Putnoe - Family Worship

Preacher– Deacon Jane Mason
Leadership – Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions – YPG

12th June - Pentecost

9.30 am Morning Worship

Preacher – Revd. Charles Royden
Leadership – Mrs. Laura Farthing
Intercessions – Mr. Warwick Holden

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher– Revd. Charles Royden
Leadership – Mrs. Claire Peck
Intercessions – Mr. Gordon Evans

Bible Readings 1. Acts 2:1-21.
2 Corinthians 12:3b-13 3. John 20:19-23

Midweek Worship Holy Communion at St Mark's
Chapel every Wednesday at 10.00am and at Sir William
Harpur House on first Monday of every month at 10.00am

Thank You

The Flowers at St Mark's this week have been given by Barbara Joy and Elizabeth Bean in loving memory of Alan and Phil on their respective Wedding Anniversaries.

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Harry and Margery Charie on the occasion of their wedding anniversary.

We are grateful when people make donations towards flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion such as an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St Mark's) or Ann Hitt 404186 (Putnoe Heights) or add your name to the rota in the foyers.

Prayer for the Week

In our days of weakness, O Christ,
let us trust in your strength;
in our hours of darkness
let us see your light;
in our seasons of doubt
let us feel your presence;
and in our moments of despair
let us cling to your Cross:
for your truth and your mercy's sake. Amen.

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
266952 Fax- 402624 nsm@thisischurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

Deacon Jane Mason

12 Hartop Close, Bedford MK41 8HE
348091 Mobile 07807 146535
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
309175 Mobile 07973 113861
vicar@thisischurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website and may appear in other local media sources.

Partnership News is also archived on our church website www.ThisisChurch.com

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@Thisischurch.com
Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved, housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services. Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Geoff Gypps 365630 mob 07947 902846
Leadership Team Mrs. Linda Hoar 782717
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator John Hitt 404186
Youth Worker Emma Gordon email - 07593266091 youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5.00pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Laura Farthing 210892

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

- 9.15 –3.45 pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school.** See website for more details www.ThisChurch.com
Head teacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685
- 8.30-5.30pm Pre-school** Mon-Fri St Mark's
- 9.30-3.15pm Top Marks** Mon-Fri St Mark's
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634
(See website for more details)
- 9.00am Clubhouse** at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.
- 9.45am - Body Control Pilates** –Putnoe Heights
Stephanie Smith ☎ 357787 or 07973174430
- 10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group.** St Mark's Mrs Berry ☎211955
- 10.30am U3A Play reading** St Mark's J Birks ☎219607
- 12.15pm Story box** Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12.15 and 1.15 for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Emma Gordon ☎07593266091
- 2pm U3A Music Appreciation** - Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting Contact Linda Reed ☎ 216623
- 3.30pm Storybox Plus** Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year olds. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then until 5pm stories, drama, singing & craft activities.
- 4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness.** Putnoe Heights. Margo Needham ☎843747 or 07881730747
- 4.15pm Kumon Maths** Putnoe Heights. Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698
- 6.00pm Brownies** St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew ☎826190
- 6.15 pm Brownies** Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎01767699399 or 07720713738.
- 6.15 Pilates** at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859
- 7.15pm Fit for Life Yoga** - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher ☎07891879571
- 7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild** St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson ☎353518
- 7.30pm Cancer Care Society.** St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst ☎01908 377020
- 7.15pm Guides.** St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake ☎218091
- 7.30pm Whist Drive.** St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting—20 June Judith Stanton. ☎823313
- 7.30pm House group** 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.
- 8pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit'** Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

Tuesday

- 9.30am Jo Jingles.** St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎07790296016
- 9.30am Candlewicking** (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart ☎365507
- 9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World** St. Mark's. Helen Folbigg ☎351223
- 10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group.** St Mark's. Sally Cripsley ☎350704
- 11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights** for the less mobile. Sally Banks ☎ 870357
- 1.15pm Toddlers Playtime/Sing & Stomp** - Putnoe Heights for toddlers and their carers. Run by Putnoe Childre's Centre Trudy Hamilton ☎340552
- 1.30pm U3A Cinema Group.** St Mark's 4th Week in month . Mrs Beaumont ☎261461

- 2.00pm U3A Book Group.** St Mark's 3rd Week Mrs Forrest ☎344043
- 2.00pm Library Walk W.I.** Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins ☎356895
- 2.00pm U3A Music Appreciation** fortnightly. Contact Mrs Reed ☎216623
- 2pm U3A Photography** (Group 3) St Mark's 1st Week. Contact John Farish ☎ 824984
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting June 7—Richard Ledger.** For more details contact Betty Wyatt ☎350188.
- 2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** St Mark's Fortnightly . Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling ☎262225
- 2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup.** St Mark's Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.
- 3.45pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson ☎295862 or 07917582468.
- 6.30pm Creative Card making.** Putnoe Heights Church. Carol Houghton ☎346718
- 6.30pm Yoga** Putnoe Heights Veronica Lafferty ☎781466 or 07788750360
- 7pm Keep Fit.** St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455
- 7pm MT Karate** [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎07941 264885
- 7.30pm Hearts in Beds. Cardiac Support Group** 1st Tuesday in the month at St Mark's. Brian Ibberson ☎403497
- 7pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Sacha Ojo ☎07590597891 or www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk
- 7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting June 14 'Quiz Evening ' For more details call Janet King 313946
- 8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers** St. Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler ☎01767 651767

Wednesday

- 9.30am Body Control Pilates.** Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith ☎357787 or 07973174430.
- 9.00am Clubhouse** at St Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.
- 10.00am Holy Communion.** St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.
- 10am U3A Card Making,** St Mark's Church. 4th week in the month. Janet Fitch 838689
- 12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - June 8 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630
- 1.00-3pm Police Surgery** at Putnoe Heights .
- 1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired.** St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811
- 1.45 Scots Society Whist** Putnoe monthly .All welcome Nancy Barr ☎268147
- 2-5pm Police Surgery.** St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179
- 1.30-4.30pm U3A Craft St Mark's** 1st & 3rd week. Pat Holland ☎262823
- 2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit.** Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster ☎856966
- 3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church.** St Mark's for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. 3rd Wednesday in the month.. Wendy Waters 401834

4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

6.00 pm Brownies. St Mark's. Mrs Carol Warden ☎219731

6.00pm Shooting Stars. Youth Group for 9-13yrs at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 26 January.

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138 or 07910835994.

6-8pm Karate. St Mark's Karen King ☎079412 64885

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Brian Sallows ☎407725

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. Vanessa Aykac 268098 or 07917385987

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice Loxley ☎347073

7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Heights Mike Del-Boyer ☎348378

8.00pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott ☎214867

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club meet at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be June 15 2011 Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Graham 406359 ,Valmai 219555 or Rosemary 405594 for more details.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Mrs Gansfield ☎215016

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights. Valerie Capon ☎356306 .

Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970

9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. Meet again on 28 April. Jo Garner 400071 or 07719670624

11am-12noon Citizens Advice Bureau Putnoe Heights.

12pm Storybox . St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing . Lots of fun. Meet again on 28 April. Contact Jaana Swaby ☎363283

1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic St. Mark's ☎267444

1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293

1.45 Friendly Chicago Bridge at Putnoe Heights £2 per session inc. refreshments. New members welcome. Contact Pat 01234 294220.

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games St Mark's Contact Radmila Dancer ☎404811

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society at St Mark's. Malcolm Smith ☎400741

4 - 7.00pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179

6.15 pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Mark's 2nd & 4th week in month. Doug Ovenden ☎825059

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale ☎406094

7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Pauline Lynham ☎01525 714517

8 -10pm Bedford Folk dancers (formerly Barn dancers)

Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights . Different guest callers each week. All welcome, cost £2 Including refreshments. More details Ron Law 825574.

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week in month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Jean Birks ☎219607

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month. Pauline Hooper ☎350079

Friday

9.30-12.30pm U3A Photography (Group 1) St Marks 4th week in month Val Scrivener ☎346397

9.00am Clubhouse St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St Mark's Joyce Fields ☎353086

12.15pm U3A Photography (Group 2). St Mark's 4th week in month. Sue Butler ☎354183

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

5-8pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Richardson ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights. Racheall Monton ☎297138 or 07910835994

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St. Mark's. Carol Brown ☎01438 233385

Saturday

10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard ☎01234 782414

Young Embroiderers bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher ☎357198

2.15pm Society of Recorder Players at Putnoe Heights. G Parry ☎01462 674792

7.00pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

Sunday

9.30 - 10.30 Church and Sunday School at St Mark's with crèche for under 3's

11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's and Young Peoples Fellowship (Y.P.F) for our young adults. A crèche is also available.

1pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515

7-9pm Tae Kwon Do St Mark's Contact Adrian Felice www.bedfotrdtkd.com or bedfordtkd@googlemail.com.

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council –
St Mark's Leadership Team
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 6 June
Putnoe Heights Management Meeting - .
St Mark's Forum Meeting - 13 July
Putnoe Church Council - 13 June –7.30pm
Pastoral Group Meeting - 14th June
Churchyard Committee -
Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -
Circuit meeting -
Deanery Meeting - .
Woodland Burial Trustees –
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth – 4th July

Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.

7th Sunday of Easter - Ascension



Opening Sentence from Scripture – Ephesians 1:20

He raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

Collect Prayer for MHA (*Before we read we pray*)

God of love and hope, of encouragement and challenge, we pray for the work of MHA, for those who live in our Homes, Schemes and Communities, for those who care for them, for those whose vision and research enable new ways of caring, for those in the organisation who direct and manage, for those who support this work with prayer and by raising funds. We acknowledge our need of one another and ask for your gifts of wisdom and understanding that the love of Christ may be shown in all we do. Amen.

First Bible Reading - Acts 1:1-14

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

(This is the Word of the Lord — **Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading - 1 Peter 4:12-14 & 5:6-11

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

(This is the Word of the Lord — **Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading - John 17:1-11

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them.

I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name--the name you gave me--so that they may be one as we are one. (This is the word of the Lord. - **Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymns (*Please distribute Morning Worship and Hymns and Psalms*)

1. Hail the day that sees him rise H&P 197
2. 'God's spirit is in my heart' H&P 315
3. O Thou who camest from above H&P 745 (*Tune Hereford*)
4. We offer Christ (*On Partnership News*) *Tune Lord of the Years*
5. What shall our greeting be, sign of our unity? H&P 806 (*Tune Moscow*)

Commentary Ascension By Deacon Jane Mason

I don't know about you, but Easter seems a long time ago to me! Ascension is one of those 'festivals' that goes largely unmarked in some traditions, trapped as it is between the joy of resurrection and the gift of Pentecost. Even in those traditions that do focus on it the imagery can be weak or childish, even verging on comical in some churches who have two feet disappearing into a cloud on their ceilings! This part of the journey sits amidst all the incredible accounts of the amazing 'post resurrection' appearances we have been looking at over the past few weeks, and last week we heard Christ promise the pouring out of the spirit, but did the disciples really understand that this meant he was leaving them?

How traumatic it must have been for them, it must almost have felt like a second bereavement, losing him again like that. The disciple stand gazing at the point they last saw him, maybe in them that it is now to ourselves that we must look for change, for when Christ prays for those he leaves behind to he prays also for all who are to come after them, and that includes us.

To Be One

What does it mean 'to be one'? It certainly does not mean that we should be the same, indeed we are nourished and our horizons broadened by the diversity of people and traditions we engage with. Christ tells us that it is through the world seeing our unity that belief will come, how close are we truly to witnessing to that great love, when often a community sees different people going into different buildings to worship separately. What, then, is the love we are required to demonstrate? In an email that was doing the rounds some time ago we read that a group of 4 to 8 year-olds were posed the question, "What does love mean?" The answers they got were broader and deeper, than anyone could have imagined, here are some of the best for your consideration;

When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different, you just know that your name is safe in their mouth." Billy - age 4

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired." Terri - age 4

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen." Bobby - age 7

Today we, in the partnership, mark MHA Sunday, this year entitled 'Count me in, older people within an inclusive church', which fits perfectly with this theme.

The 2011 census is to be used to determine the make-up of the population so that people can plan services that reflect the needs of local communities and the nation as a whole. The past few censuses have underlined the ageing nature of our population, and the challenges that this brings to everyone. But if we are not careful with our language, the challenge all too easily gets spoken of in ways which suggest older people are a problem.

The church risks being guilty of this too, I have lost count of the number of church meetings I have been at where those gathered lament the missing younger generations and seek ways to 'entice them in'. We too risk 'jumping on the cultural bandwagon' of negativity, so prevalent in our media, focussing on what we do not have, rather than what we do. I would never suggest that we should not do youth work where it is needed, but sometimes we should perhaps considering ministering better to the people we already have contact with. It is my firm belief that in doing so we would create an attractive community that people would be drawn to, and if we do our job well, it would then be in the nature of that community to meet the needs of its new members.

Growth, by its very nature, requires change and sometimes we have become too comfortable with our own way of doing things that we fail to see how it excludes people, even in the time we have our meetings. To echo some of what Sam shared in our lantern studies, to become inclusive and demonstrate equality may include a level of sacrifice, and perhaps we all need to consider what we are willing to forgo for the sake of growth.

On MHA Sunday, have a look at the age profile of your church and community and, instead of simply focussing on the gaps, look at the challenge of supporting the spiritual needs of those who are there. MHA's age profile is older than most, and it's certainly not a problem, in fact I find my ministry in both Anjulita/Ladyslaude Court MHA and with those at Puttenhoe is one of the most rewarding I have ever engaged with.

But we don't have to feel guilty, in the epistle we are told to lay our burdens with Christ, so I offer you this prayer as a resource;

Lord,
Night comes
And I look back over the day
And see how fragmentary everything has been,
And how much I planned that has gone undone,
And all the reasons I have to be embarrassed and ashamed.
I take everything exactly as it is, put it in your hands and leave it with you.
Now I can rest in you – really rest – and start life as new tomorrow.

St Therese of Lisieux, variation of Edith Stein.

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

You are not only risen and alive, you are Lord.
This is your ascension, your ascendancy over the whole universe.
You stand over and above all that is best in life as its source.
You stand above all that is worst as ultimate victor.
You stand above all powers and authorities as judge.
You stand above all failure and weakness and sin as forgiveness and love.
You alone are worthy of total allegiance, total commitment.
You are Lord 'My Lord and my God' *Rex Chapman*

Lord of Hosts, purify our hearts that the King of Glory may come in, even your Son, Jesus our Redeemer; for he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

O Almighty God, who by thy holy apostle hast taught us to set our affection on things above: grant us so to labour in this life as ever to be mindful of our citizenship in those heavenly places whither our saviour Christ is gone before. *Book of Common Prayer South Africa*

Goldington Friendship over 55's club. We have a day trip to Halesworth and Southwold on 14 July leaving Church Lane Community Centre at 8.15am cost £15 per person. We have some spare seats !

If you are a senior citizen in Goldington you might like to consider joining the club. The club is run on a Thursday afternoon 2pm until 4pm there is a small charge of £1.10 per week paid monthly in advance, but anyone is welcome to come and have a look 1 week for no charge. Next week we will have stand up bowling, the following week Bingo, then a pub Lunch on 23rd then the last week of every month is Tai chi. So games, teas, pub lunches, films outings etc. We hope it offers something to please everyone. We have a small raffle each week, and there is coffee, tea and biscuits. Gloria 07929945157

Visit to Rwanda Our granddaughter, Charlotte is spending 9 days in Rwanda with a group from her school next February. They will be working with children and young people still suffering from the effects of the genocide. We are helping her to raise money and are having a coffee morning/afternoon on Saturday 25 June from 10 12am and 2-4pm. Light refreshments, raffle, bring and buy, plants, books etc. Come and join us at 30 The Ridgeway. Margaret & Eddy Peck

Mike Cooper and family would like to express their deep gratitude for all the kind thoughts and wishes and the prayers of everyone at both Churches following the death of Mike's mum Doris.

Action for Children—Thanks to all took part in the Home Collectors Box opening event, counting the sum of £162.03. The teas and home-made cakes were enjoyed in the Wren Room with a further £18 donated. Do look out for notices of coming events nationally. Would anyone like to take part in the Big Jump—19 June or the London Walkthrough, the history of Action for Children 2 July. See details on notice boards in Church Foyer. Margaret Standley

Shannon Express Concert at St Andrews Church, 8pm on 11 June 2011. Pre-concert Summer Supper 6.30pm. Concert and supper tickets £14, £13 concessions, £10 students 16-21yrs. Tickets available from St Andrews church office only Concert tickets £7, £6 concessions. £3 students. Children free accompanied by an adult. Church Centre office Tel:01234 216881

Brickhill Scout Group are holding a Family Quiz Night and Fish and Chip Supper at St Mark's

Church on Friday 17 June, 7pm for 7.30pm start. Teams of up to 6 people. Adults £6 (linc supper). Children £4 (inc supper) Contact Caroline Romans on 07732 467823 or rcromans@btinternet.com

Sue Ryder Charity Hog Roast Friday 17 June at Cutler Hammer Sport & Social Club, Kempston, at 8pm. Music from live band 'Recover'. Tickets £15 and more details from 01234 357321 or 405278. All proceeds from Sue Ryder Care.

There will be a Putnoe Children and Youth meeting on Monday 4 July

Parish Church Extravaganza Sunday 26 June will be Open Sunday at many parish churches in the archdeaconry of Bedford. The churches will be open all day for people to enjoy, with a special welcome which often includes refreshments, cream teas etc. Find out more from www.stalbans.anglican.org

Methodist Homes Sunday 12 June is an opportunity to support the work of MHA in the excellent provision it makes in care of older people. With Anjulita Court in our locality, we can see it in practice. Our support is essential and donations are gratefully received. If you would like to contribute, please use the specially provided envelopes in the welcome area and return in the collection plate. Thank you Pam Kinselley.

First Putnoe Brownies are having a fundraising sale on Monday 6th June 6.30-7.30 with raffle tombola, book tombola, childrens lucky dip, games, refreshments. We are splitting the money between the unit and Riverbank Ward at the hospital as we have had 2 Brownies who have been in in the past year.

Action for Children's stall at the recent Car Boot Sale raised £116.59. Very grateful thanks to all the busy workers on the day who gave and sold the goods for the cause.

The Rev. Martin Hounsfeld leaves this circuit where he has been the Superintendent minister at the end of August and starts his retirement. Martin's leaving service is on July 17 and we would like to give him a gift as a thank you for the service he has given to this circuit and to remind him of his time in Bedfordshire. As Martin wants very little fuss we will combine the circuit giving with the Priory and Park Road collections and make a single gift. If you would like to make a donation please give this in a clearly marked envelope to the church treasurers or any member of the Leadership Team.

Call to Worship

Gather us together Lord,
for we come to you as your church.
Gather us together Lord,
we come with our variety and uniqueness.
Gather us together Lord,
we come to be counted as your friends.
Gather us together Lord,
and we will share the gifts of your Spirit.
Gather us together Lord,
for all are welcome within your love.
Amen.

Prayer of Adoration

Living God, we praise you for your promise of your Spirit for all people;
Come Holy Spirit

God of the Spirit of wonder, we see your glory reflected in the variety of earth and sea and stars,
in the colours and sounds and shapes of all that we experience. We are amazed and look in awe.

Come Holy Spirit

God of the Spirit of gentleness, we feel your love in the tenderness and touch of friends, in the humour and laughter and tears we share. We are humbled and open our hearts.

Come Holy Spirit

God of the Spirit of diversity, we come as your church, young, old or middle-aged, sporty and energetic or weary or unwell. We are enfolded in love and rejoice in our differences.

Come Holy Spirit

God of the Spirit of hope, we sing of your steadfast love and join our songs with the communion of saints who trust in you. We are confident and rest in your love.

Come Holy Spirit

We praise you for the enlivening, energetic, powerful drive of your Spirit which enables us to know that God is real, that God is here. The Lord says, 'Set your hearts at rest and banish your fears'.

Come Holy Spirit. Amen.

A Hymn for Sunday

We offer Christ to all the world around us, born into faith, released from pride and shame; embraced by love, we show how love has found us;
at peace with God, we speak our Saviour's name.

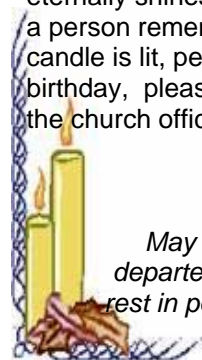
We offer Christ from all our best traditions, by grace alone, amazed and strangely warmed, created equal, stirred by freedom-visions, self-critical, prepared to be reformed.

We offer Christ; the barrier-bestrider, whose fullness far exceeds our local view, whose Spirit, breathing deep in every culture, brings Christ to us, the same, yet strangely new.

We offer Christ and, God-beloved, our Saviour now offers us, born of the Spirit's kiss, to love creation and creation's Lover, with skill, compassion, justice, care and peace.

Rest In Peace

On the Sunday following a funeral service we remember in church those who have died. We light a candle to symbolise the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings hope. If you would like a person remembered in our service when the candle is lit, perhaps on an anniversary or birthday, please inform the ministers, or telephone the church office.



May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.'



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Forthcoming Funerals

The funeral of Jean Herdman will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 7 June at 2.30pm

